by Government have generated considerable interest amongst foreign investors from several countries including those from U. K.

(b) and (c) In the wake of recent liberalisation measures, the Reserve Bank of India expeditiously approves, on a near-automatic basis, disinvestment proposals from foreign investors under FERA, 1973.

(d) The total foreign direct investment in India proposed by British companies/investors in the foreign collaboration approvals in 1990 was Rs. 90.67 million and in 1991 it has grown up to Rs. 321.00 million, Rs. 1176.7 million in 1992, and Rs. 3796.8 million in the first six months of 1993.

Establishment of Factories by NRIs and Foreign Companies in India

600. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign companies and NRIs who have applied to set up industries in the country;

(b) the number of such applications cleared;

(c) the estimated amount of investment for setting up industries; and

(d) the number of applications rejected together with the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) Since the announcement of New Industrial Policy, 1227 applications received for setting up of industries involving investment by foreign companies including NRI investment have been approved till the end of June, 1993. Total foreign direct investment envisaged in these proposals is Rs. 8252.87 crores.

(d) A total number of 40 applications for foreign investment including NRI investments were rejected during this period for various reasons, such as :—

the proposals were sketchy and lacked essential details;

the proposals were not in conformity with the prescribed norms;

the value addition in respect of 100% EOUs being very low;

terms of payments were very high etc.

Expert Committee to Restructure PSUs

601. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to set up Expert Committees for restructuring of the sick public sector undertakings in the service sector;

(b) if so, whether these Committees are proposed to work out a revival package for these undertakings; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

British Assistance to India on Privatisation

602. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the British Prime Minister during his recent visit to India had offered to share British expertise with India on the Privatisation of Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) to what extent British business delegation reacted to the liberalisation process in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Production Problem in Haridwar Unit of BHEL

603. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the heavy electrical equipment division of Haridwar unit of

BHEL has been facing major disruption in production due to want of orders;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made into the lack of orders;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the stepe being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Based on firm orders in hand, capacity utilisation in future will not be adequate. The lack of orders with BHEL is due to resource constraints with the customers. BHEL is adopting the following approach to improve the order book position:—

Greater thrust on exports (both physical and deemed) by focussing on specific potential areas. A company-wide programme to obtain ISO-9000 quality certification is being pursued.

Mopping up business from existing power stations through life extension renovation/ modernisation of old equipment.

Diversification into new synergistic growth areas where BHEL's existing infrastructure, skills and capabilities could be gainfully utilised.

Joint working with reputed companies by formulating bids with consortium arrangements for power generation both in private and public sectors.

Marketing drive to obtain balance orders of VIII and IX Plan for power generating equipment.

Retaining market leadership in existing areas by selective modernisation/upgradation of facilities and technologies.

Dereservation of Items

604. SHRI SHIVAJIRAO GIRIDHAR PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision towards dereservation of items like machine made footwear, textiles, etc; and

(b) if so, whether this would affect the SSIs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Rise in Prices of Newsprint by the Public Sector Units

605. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Public Sector newsprint mills have recently effected a steep-rise in the prices of newsprint;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that the newsprint mills have not yet passed on the concessions given by Government by way of abolition of Customs duty in the import of wooden pulp;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) HindJustan Newsprint Ltd. (HNL) and Tamil Nadu Newsprint & Papers Ltd. (TNPL) have increased their prices of newsprint in June, 1993 by Rs. 1000 & Rs. 500 per metric tonne respectively. The increases in their prices are reported to be mainly due to escalations in input costs during the last one year.

(d) to (f) There is no statutory control over the price of newsprint. However, newsprint mills have informed that the escalation in input costs have been much more than the concession accruing from the abolition of customs duty on the import of wood pulp. The mills have taken into account the concessions given while revising their prices.

C&AG Report on PSUs

606. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the C&AG report in the House a few months back wherein Public Sector Undertakings were